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9/13/99 Date

Muhelle Fissel Signature

SEP 1 7 1999

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

BILLING -MEDEL et al.

Serial No.: 09/092,296

Art Unit: 1642

Filing Date: June 5, 1998

Examiner: T. Worrall

Title:

REAGENTS AND METHODS USEFUL FOR DETECTING DISEASES OF

THE LUNG

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action in the above-referenced application, mailed May 12, 1999. The response date, with one-month extension, falls on Sunday 12 September 1999. Accordingly, the response due date is Monday 13 September 1999. A one-month extension of time to respond is requested, and the fee therefor accompanies this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 18-1648 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 which may be required by this paper. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

156.00 PP